



**JOINT READINESS TRAINING CENTER
AND FORT POLK
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*Media Advisory***



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**4013th Garrison Support Unit to transfer authority:
Ceremony set for Thursday**

Fort Polk, La. -- The 4013th Garrison Support Unit (GSU) will transfer their mobilization and demobilization responsibilities to the 643rd Area Support Group (ASG) in a formal ceremony, 10:00 a.m., Thursday, November 4th, at Warrior Brigade Field, here.

The 4013th GSU, an Army Reserve unit from Bossier City, Louisiana, arrived at Fort Polk in January 2002 to augment US Army Garrison, Fort Polk in support of the Global War on Terrorism.

The 643rd ASG, an Army Reserve unit from Whitehall, Ohio, was activated on April 16, 1999. It is comprised of four battalions and 23 companies supporting over 2,300 soldiers. 643rd ASG units are currently involved in missions in Afghanistan, Kuwait, Qatar, Iraq, Bosnia, and Africa.

Media wishing to attend must be at the Public Affairs Office, Bldg. 401 Radio Road no later than 9:30 a.m. Thursday, November 4th.

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LTC Andrew C. Fairchild Outgoing Commander

Lieutenant Colonel Fairchild assumed command of the Mobilization Support Battalion (P), 4013th USAR Garrison Support Unit, 90th Regional Support Group, 90th Regional Readiness Command on January 23, 2004. Prior to this assignment, he served as the Chief, Office of Strategic Initiatives for the 95th Division (Institutional Training) Headquarters located in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

Lieutenant Colonel Fairchild was commissioned in 1982 as a Reserve Officer from the ROTC program at the University of Central Oklahoma. Upon graduation from the University in 1983, he entered active duty at Fort McClellan, Alabama, as a Chemical Officer. Following completion of the Chemical Officer Basic Course, he was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 41st Infantry Regiment, 2nd Armored division, Fort Hood, Texas and served as the Battalion Chemical Officer; which includes a rotation to the National Training Center with Army's first M1/M2 Task Force. He then was re-assigned as a Chemical platoon leader with the 44th Chemical Company, 2nd Armored Division.

Lieutenant Colonel Fairchild branch transferred to the Military Police Corps in 1986. He completed the MP Officer Basic Course in December 1986, and subsequently attended the MP Officer Advanced Course in 1987 at Fort McClellan, Alabama. His follow-on assignment was as the S-3 Plans Officer with the 95th MP Battalion, Mannheim, Germany, and then as the Battalion's S-1 Officer. In March 1990 he assumed command of the Wackernheim MP Company, a physical security MP near Mainz, Germany. After a successful 19-month command he was re-assigned as the Deputy Provost Marshal, Fort Lee, Virginia.

Lieutenant Colonel Fairchild departed active duty in 1993. He joined Detachment 2174, US Army Garrison, 80th Division, US Army Reserve, as the Operations Officer for the Garrison's Provost Marshal Office at Martinsville, Virginia.

In 1997 Lieutenant Colonel Fairchild and his family moved to Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, where he joined the 95th Division (Institutional Training) as a Deputy Inspector General.

In May 1999 Lieutenant Colonel Fairchild deployed to Tulsa, Bosnia-Herzegovina, and served as the Deputy Chief, Joint Visitors Bureau with the Multi National Force under Operation Joint Forge. He was then selected and transferred to US European Command's Command Protocol Office, serving as VIP Protocol Officer at the four-star level until his release from temporary active duty on 30 October 2000.

In June 2001 Lieutenant Colonel Fairchild was assigned as the Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel, G-1. In July 2002 he was hand-selected by the Commanding General, 95th Division (IT) as the first Chief, Office of Strategic Initiatives, an office he successfully created and reported directly to the CG. He held this position until his most recent selection and subsequent transfer to the 4013th USAR Garrison Support Unit, 90th Regional Support Group, 90th Regional Readiness Command.

Lieutenant Colonel Fairchild holds a Bachelor of Business Administration degree from the University of Central Oklahoma. He also holds a Master of Science in Business Administration from the University of Central Michigan and a Master of Public Administration from Troy State University.

Lieutenant Colonel Fairchild's military awards and decorations include Meritorious Service Medal (with one oak Leaf Cluster), Joint Service Commendation Medal, Army Commendation Medal (with two oak Leaf Clusters), Army Achievement Medal (with four Oak Leaf Clusters), National Defense Service Medal (second award), Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Armed Forces Reserve Medal (with Silver hourglass and "M" Device), Overseas Service Ribbon, Army Service Ribbon, and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) Medal.

Lieutenant Colonel Fairchild has been married to the former Lorna Boaz of Oklahoma City for over 22 years. They have three grown children and four grandchildren. Lieutenant Colonel Fairchild and his wife make their home on a 270 acre farm in Paden, Oklahoma.

Colonel Douglas Carpenter Incoming Commander

Colonel Douglas Carpenter, a native of North Royalton, Ohio was commissioned a second lieutenant in the Field Artillery after graduating from the United States Military Academy at West Point in 1980. Following graduation he attended airborne school and completed the Field Artillery Officer Basic Course.

From 1980 to 1988, Colonel Carpenter served on active duty in a number of troop assignments in the United States and overseas, to include Fire Direction Officer, Ammunition Officer and Battery Commander with the 2nd Battalion, 34th Field Artillery, Fort Sill, Oklahoma and Pershing Firing Platoon Commander and S4 with the 1st Battalion, 81st Field Artillery, regimentalized to 1st Battalion, 9th Field Artillery in Neu Ulm, Germany. Upon release from active duty Colonel Carpenter served in the individual ready reserve (IRR) control group for a brief period. From 1989 to present COL Carpenter has served in the Army Reserve troop program unit (TPU) program in a number of troop and staff assignments, to include assistant Operations Officer and two Battery Commands with the 3rd Battalion, 92nd Field Artillery, in Akron and Youngstown, Ohio, S4 with the 169th Corps Support Group, Cleveland, Ohio, Executive Officer, 693rd Maintenance Battalion reflagged as the 423rd Corps Support Battalion in Warren, Ohio, Commander of the 319th Quartermaster (POL) Battalion, Cleveland, Ohio, Director, Host Nation Liaison and Director, Plans and Operations with the 645th Area Support Group in Southfield, Michigan, and Director, Field Services Directorate, 21st Theater Support Command, Indianapolis, IN until his present assignment as the Commander, 643d Area Support Group. He holds a Bachelor of Science Degree from the United States Military Academy and a Masters Degree in Strategic Studies from the U.S. Army War College. His military education includes the Field Artillery Officer Basic, Officer Advanced, Cannon and Pershing Courses, the Combined Arms Services Staff Officer Course, the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College and the U.S. Army War College. Colonel Carpenter's military awards include the Meritorious Service Medal with one oak leaf cluster, the Army Commendation Medal with four oak leaf clusters, the Army Achievement Medal, the Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal with three oak leaf clusters, the Superior Unit Award, numerous service ribbons and the Parachutist Badge.

Colonel Carpenter is married to the former Aleksandra Szmata. They have two children, Monica Anne Frauck, age 23, and David Alexander Carpenter, age 21.

Colonel Carpenter is self-employed and is the third generation owner of the Carpenter Insurance Agency, Parma Heights, OH. The family-owned company was established in 1933. COL Carpenter purchased it from his father in 1992. He also owns the Maloney-Deuber Agency, Barberton, Ohio and the Coffee Insurance Agency, Creston, OH.